

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 3, as follows:

5 Data collected and processed on the PCs 102 may be further analyzed, collated, merged, stored, or otherwise processed at one or more servers 103. These servers 103 may be integral with a single one of the PCs 102 and used as a stand-alone system in the field, be one or more separate PCs 102 also deployed to the field or at a fixed location to communicate 110 with the PCs 102 ~~use~~ used to collect data, or one or more mini-computers or a mainframe located in a
10 mobile instrumentation van (not shown separately) or at a fixed site, or a combination of the above.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 12, as follows:

15 Refer to Fig. 3 in which a block diagram of an embodiment of the present invention is used to collect, identify, package, ship, and preserve physical samples. By following a pre-specified sampling plan, the number and type of required samples is collected 301. These are packaged to eliminate contamination and preserve 302 them for later investigation. To facilitate tracking and inventory, these samples are labeled 303 with a bar code and the bar codes read 304 into a
20 PC 102 together with appropriate identification data. The samples are then packed 305 in appropriate containers for shipping, identifying the contents to an individual barcode label for the container. These barcodes are also read into a PC 102 and the container shipped and tracked 306 via the barcode. At the receiving end, the containers are received 307, status updated to an inventory location 308, and the bar codes read into PCs 102. The samples are then accessed 309
25 for further investigation or analysis by correlation to container and individual sample bar codes. Prior to processing the samples, the individual bar code is read 310 into a PC 102 by an investigator or technician, the sample is processed, and if not destroyed, either disposed of or retained 311 for reference, quality control, or further analysis. The disposition of the sample is then documented 312 by its barcode.

30 Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 12, as follows:
For example, an operator of a data collection unit of ARMST[™] may aim sensors

incorporated in the unit at a target and press a record button. This action may capture a digital image, measure the distance to the target, obtain GPS positioning, azimuth, inclination, elevation and other metric attributes, and store the data in a database with a time stamp and unique identifier (barcode) attached. Because the data are collected digitally it allows for
5 immediate verification of the quality and usefulness of the data. Finally, the collected data, i.e., forms, GPS, GIS shape files, video and audio images, are downloaded from a field unit, typically a PC 102, to a base computer that may be a PC 102. This may be done in a one-step process using an infrared, wired or radio frequency (RF) connection between the client 102 and server computers. The server computer, which may have more powerful software tools, may be
10 used for additional processing and analysis. A feature of the ARMS™ that contributes to increased efficiency is an automated, pre-programmed function on the server that is structured to generate customized reports from specific data files, such as archeological site forms, and plant or animal inventories, or both, thereby eliminating transcription errors.

15 Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 27, as follows:

In one embodiment of the present invention, field specimens such as artifacts, soils, minerals, and plants are collected, bagged and affixed with a unique bar code label in the field. The labels are printed on archival quality material and include text descriptions, e.g., project
20 ~~ID~~ ID and provenience. Bar coding facilitates automated inventory, tracking and retrieval of the specimen throughout the life cycle of the project, while enhancing digital curation and research capabilities.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 3, as follows:

25 Refer to Fig. 4 representing a method 400 for employing an embodiment of the present invention by:

uploading data 401 such as maps, aerial photographs, and other geo-referenced data into a pre-specified project file using a software program such as SOLO OFFICE;
30 compiling information 402 such as base maps and project information and copying these over as a whole to client devices running a software program such as SOLO FIELD;
logging GPS data 403 such as coordinates and elevation on client devices;

prompting field users 404 to enter data regarding the field survey that is being conducted at that station, including, for example, recording form data as well as any notations, photographs, video, or dictation;

recovering and bagging 405 material such as artifacts while documenting same, for example, by assigning a bag number with relevant station data and transmitting the number to print a label for the collection bag onsite;

uploading data 406 to a server for further processing, such as consolidation and implementation of checklists;

checking 407, such as implementing a menu of quality control or assurance procedures, to insure that all data have been properly recorded and collected material bagged and, for example, insuring that consolidated GIS data ~~facilitates~~ facilitate in-field spot-checking for anomalies prior to leaving the field; and,

in those cases where the server used in the field is not the final processor, uploading consolidated files 408 to either a centralized server or back-up tape or CD.